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**PATENT APPLICATION**

**THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q64671

Shigeru TANAKA, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/909,988

Group Art Unit: 3724

Confirmation No.: 1372

Examiner: Jason Prone

Filed: July 23, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ESTIMATING A LIFE-SPAN OF A CUTTER

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 and RESPONSE TO INTERVIEW**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 23, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows on the accompanying pages.

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